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TO THE ART Of SINGING.

Of MUSIC in GENERAL.

a science, it teacheth us the just disposition and true relation of these sounds; and as an art, it enables us to express them with facility and advantage. The tones of music differ from sounds in general, because they vary from each other by fixed intervals, and are measures by certain proportions of time. There is indeed. in good speaking a regurality to be observed, which hath some resemblance to this art, and to the orator we not frequently apply the epithet musical. But the inflections of the voice in speech are more minute and variable, slide as it were by infensible degrees, and cannot easily be limited by rule; whereas the gradations of mufical found are exactly ascertained, and may be refered to an uniform standard.

Music naturally divides itself into MELODY and HARMONY. MELODY is the agreeable effect which arifeth from the fuccession of single founds. HARMONY is the pleasing union of several sounds at the same time. Modulation consists in rightly disposing and connecting either the melody of a single part, or the harmony of various parts.

TUSIC confiss in a succession of pleasing sounds, with reference to a reculiar portion ate duration, and relative acuteness or gravity. The first and internal sense implanted in as by the great Creator. Considered as property which we may remark is their TIME, or proportionate continuance. And here we observe, that without varying the acuteness or gravity of the tone, a difference of inovement alone may constitute an inperfect species of music. Such, for example, is that of the drum, where the tones are only diversified by the celerity with which they succeed each other. The SECOND principal quality is their RELATIVE ACUTENESS OF GRAVITY. Bodies of unequal fize, or length, or tension, emit sounds differing in this respect. And they are said to be acute, in proportion to the smallness, or shortness of the founding object, or to its greater degree of tension; and grave in proportion to its bulk, or length, or less degree of tension,* Thus in a set of reguraly tuned bells, the smallest gives the found which we denominate the most acute, and the largest that which is faid to be the most grave, and the different intervals between them are respectively different degrees of acuteness or gravity. Instead of the words acute, or grave, musicians commonly use the terms sharp or flat, and sometimes high or low not that any of these names can be supposed to have a resemblance to the real properties of found, but merely for the fake of distinction. and indeed it is re-The two PRIMARY and ESSENTIAL qualities of mufical founds are PRO- markable, that the ancient Greeks reversed the fignification of these words as

* Philosophy hath fully proved that all sounds are conveyed to the ear by means of vibrations, and that acuteness or gravity depends upon the greater or the less number of vibratious communicated in a given time by any particular object.

applied to the gradation of found, calling those notes high which we call low, happy combination of these two qualities, is chiesly to be ascribed the pleasing probably because the longest strings in their lyre occupies the uppermost places. and endless variety of the musical art. The principle diffinctions of mufical found then are TIME and TUNE and to the

Of TIME with its VARIOUS CHARACTERS.

NE of the first and most essential properties of music, is TIME, or proportionate duration. And proportion evidently supposes a standard, with which the length of various founds may be compared. The ftandard-note then I. Ex. 1. may be the jemibreve, which is the flowest note in common use. + The leagth of the femibreve has been described whilst one may very leifurely re kon four. But it frequently varies from this measure, and is to be considered with regard to comparative rather than absolute duration. It is equal in continuance to two minims, or four crotchets. or eight quavers, or fixteen jemiquavers, or thirty-two demi-lemiquavers. For the characters whereby these notes are expressed, and also for those marks which denote a rest or silence of the same length, see Plate I. Example 1.

A DOT.] A DOT added to any note, makes it half as long again as it otherwife would be. Thus a dotted semibrive is equal to three minims, a dotted minim to three crotchets, &c. Plate I. Ex. 2.

FIGURE OF 3.] The figure THREE, placed over three notes of equal length, requires that they be fung or performed in the time allotted to two of i. e. when the measure thereof is continually bifected, a tune is taid to be in comthe same kind. Plate I. Ex. 3.

STAVE.] A STAFF, OI STAVE, confifts of five parallel lines on which, and the intermediate space, the musical characters are generally described. Plate

A BAR. A BAR is a perpendicular line drawn across a stave, and dividing a piece of music into small, convenient, and equal portions. Thus when a company of foldiers march to military mufic, every time they strike the ground with the right foot may be represented by a bar. Or if it be convenient to divide a tune into finaller portions, every time they strike the ground with either foot may be considered as abar. And these bars include an equal duration of time, whether confisting of notes or rests. They generally, but not always, mark those parts of the tune which are distinguished by a greater emphasis. A bar is also used to denote so much of the music as is contained between two bars. A double bar shews the ending of a line or strain. Plate I. Ex. 4.

COMMON and TRIPLE TIME.

WHEN the bar naturally subdivides itself into two parts, or four or eight, &c. MON TIME. When the natural division of a bar is into three, or fix, or twelve,

[†] Formerly two other characters were in use to express notes of greater length than the semibreve. The first was called a large being a long and square note. The second was in figure similar lar to the other, but and half fie fire and half its duration, in respect to which it was called a breve. The semibreve as the name denotes, was half the breve, and the minim was the least note in use.

i, e. into three, or three continually bifected, it is faid to be in TRIPPLETIME. Moobs.] Both common and triple time admit of various degrees of swiftness which are marked at the beginning of a tune by characters called Moods.— Plate I. Ex. 5.

The principal modes of common time are three. The first is the plain letter C. and is used to express the flowest movement. The second is the letter C with a stroke through it, and intimates a quicker motion. The third is the letter C inverted, and denotes the fwiftest common time that is generally met

with in church music.

The marks of triple time are, for the flowest movement 3, and for quicker movements 3, 3. There are also other figures made use of, and other combinations of time, but they less frequently occur in facred music. And it may be fufficient to observe, that all the moods which are expressed by figures, whether in common or in tripple time, refer to the femibrewe. Thus 3 indicates that the bar contains three minims, or three halves of a femibreve; & is fix quavers, or time, but we must not omit to mention, that the same mood does not uniformly represent the same degree of quickness in different tunes. Instead of being an absolute standard and universally applied, it is rather used to shew the relative quickness or slowness of an air compared with a preceding or following one. And for the degree of swiftness adapted to any particular tune, experience and a good ear will be our best and surest guide.

BEATING OF TIME.]. BEATING OF TIME is only an artificial method of making the movement of a mufical air, and is performed in various ways, but generally by the hand or the foot. In many tunes a gentle stroke of the hand corresponding with the beginning of each bar might be deemed sufficient for the purpose. In common, time it is more frequently recommended to the learner to give one half of the bar to the hand down, and the other half to the hand listed up. In triple time he may divide the bar into three equal parts giving the two first to the hand down, and the last to the nand lifted up. But the beating of time it is obvious may be practifed in various ways, and it is sufficient to have hinted at the most common methods.

A HOLD.] An arch with a dot placed over any note is called a HOLD, and directs that note to be continued beyond its customary length. Sometimes it is intended to fignify a fudden and short pause, at the option of the leader of a band, who may take this opportunity of introducing a flourish or short voluntary. Sometimes when the former part of the tune is repeated, it points out the fix eighths of a semibreve, &c. We have thus explained the usual marks of final close. In psalmody it is often used for the purpose of a double bar, to shew

> Note, the first and last bars of a tune are not always complete; and in psalmody, the first and last bars even of a fingle line are often deficient. But it is a general rule that the first and last bar, taken together make a tull bar, so that

in the finging of one or more verses, no interruption is occasioned.

the conclusion of one or more lines. Plate I. Ex. 4.

III.

Of TUNE or the DIFFERENT DEGRESS of MUSICAL SOUND.

their duration, we now proceed to observe their relative ACUTENESS or pared, to which we give the name of the key note.

FITHERTO we have confidered musical sounds as distinguished only by GRAVITY. And this also supposes a standard, with which they may be com-

KEY-NOTE

KEY-NOTE. The KEY-NOTE is so called because it governs and explains all the rest. It is a predominant tone to which all the other founds have a reference, and it is generally the concluding note of the principal part, and al-

ways that of the bass.

OCTAVE, Taking then the key-note for a standard, we may ascend or descend through a series of seven degrees of sound, after which we come to another feries of seven notes corresponding with the former, and this series may be repeated as often as the compass of music requires. These seven degrees of sound are marked by the first seven letters of the alphabet, ABCDEFG, which letters recur again with every successive series. And from any note to the eighth above or below is faid to be an actavo, i. e. a compass of eight notes including the two extremes. And we may observe that as those notes which are octaves to each other are called by the same name, so they have the same nature and coaleice as it were into one found. This may be illustrated by the common performance of pfalmody, in which women and boys generally fing every note an octave higher than the men, when they are faid to join in the same part.

Tones AND SEMI TONES. The seven intervals of found that take place in the octave are found to be unequal. There are five greater called tones, and two

smaller called femitones.

SHARP AND FLAT KEYS.] When reckoning from the key-note. the two semitones lie between the third and fourth; * and between the seventh and the eighth, a tune is said to be in the SHARP KEY. But if the place of the semitiones be found between the fecond and the third : and between the flfth und the fixth, a tune is faid to be in the FLAT KEY. Or it may be fufficient to observe the third from the key note. If it be a sharp or major third, i. e. if it contains five femitones (including the two extremes) the tune is in the SHARP

KEY. If it be a flat or minor third, i. e. if it comprehend only four femitones the tune is in the FLAT KEY. The word key is properly applied, as it discovers to us the leading quality of the air, tunes in the sharp key naturally expressing the cheerful and lively passions, whilst the flat key is adapted to the grave, the mournful and the pathetic.

GAMUT.] We have before had occasion to mention the stave, the principal use of which is to mark the several gradations of found. Upon the lines and spaces which it contains are ranged the several notes in order, which are distinguished by the first seven letters of the alphabet. But in order to know the name and place of each note more perfectly, it may be proper to consider the stave as part of the GAMUT, or general scale of music. Three octaves, or twenty two notes, are supposed to comprehend the ordinary cumpass of the human voice. And these twenty-two sounds are capable of being expressed by eleven parallel lines with their intermediate spaces, see Plate I. Ex. 6. But as the eye would be unable to read with facility fo extensive a scale, and as the compass of a single voice does not extend to three octaves, we therefore divide the gamut into different staves of five lines each. The five lowest lines of the scale are allotted to the gravest or lowest voices, and are called the BASS STAVE. The five highest are assigned to the voice of women or boys, and are called rhe TREBLE STAFE,

Between the treble and the bass stavers there is a particular line, on which is marked the letter C. To this (in order to make another complete staff) we fometimes add the two lowest lines of the treble staff, and the two highest of the bass. Sometimes we take more lines from the trebie and fewer from the bass, or more from the bass, and fewer from the treble. And to this staff we give the

name of TENOR, Or CONTRA. Or MEDIUS.

^{*} In reckoning the intervals from one found .o another, we always include the two extremes. From the first to the second is called a second, from the first to the third is called a third.

CLIFFS.] CLIFFS are characters used at the beginning of every slave in order to ascertain the place of the musical letters, and to shew whether such staff is to be considered as belonging to the treble, the tenor, or the bass. See Plate I. Ex. 6.

The TREBLE is called also the G cliff, either because it is sometimes reprefented by a careless G, or because it is usually placed on the line called G.

The CONTRA, or TENOR, is marked by two upright, and two transverse strokes, and is occasionally placed in different parts of the stave. But observe that the line which passes between the two transverse strokes is always C,——Hence it is called the C cliff.

The Bass cliff is an inverted C with two points, and the line between these two points is always F. N.B. As the multiplication of cliffs increases the difficulty of the musical art, we have in the following collection confined ourselves to the use of two, viz. the treble and the bass, which appear sufficient for the purpose of common psalmody.

LEDGER LINES.] Sometimes a sew notes exceed the compass of the stave,

and require the addition of short lines called LEDGER LINES.

KEYS IN THE NATURAL SCALE.] The regular place of the femitones contained in the octave, is from B to C, and from E to F. This may be illustrated by the following series, in which these letters are put nearer together than the rest.

Example, G A BC D EF G A BC D EF G, &c. Now if C be consi-

tuted the key-note of a tune in the sharp'key, the semitones will fall out in their regular order thus:

C D EF G A BC.

Here the femitones occur between the third and fourth, and between the feventh and eighth, agreeable to what was observed page 5, under the article sharp and flat keys.

So also if A be constituted, the key note of a tune in the flat key, the semitones will again take place in their proper order, that is, will be from the second to third, and from the fixth to the seventh, thus:

A BC D EF G A
1 2,3 4 5 6 7 8

The keys therefore of C and A are said to be in the NATUTAL SCALE* because the natural order of the semitones is preserved, and the music may be written upon these keys, without the characters called.

SHARPS AND FLATS.] There is a convenient pitch, at which every tune should begin, to suit the nature of the voice or instrument. This may not be C nor A; for the music might hereby be too high or too low, It is true that the pitch of the human voice is optional, but that of instruments is necessarily fixed. Besides, were C or A the key note, the music might not easily be contained within the regular limits of the stave. Now

^{*} They are sometimes, but with less propriety, called natural keys. For in nature we have but two keys, the sharp and the flat. The natural key, therefore, has reference merely to the written scale and is only aparticular manner of expressing either the sharp or stat keys.

if we chuse any other letter for the key note of a tune in the sharp key besides C or for the key note of a tune in the flat key besides A, it is evident that the femitones BC and EF will not take place in regular order. Thus let D be made the key-note of a tune in the sharp key. The order of the letters will then fland thus. D EF G A BC D. Here the semitones, which ought to be from the third to the fourth, and from the feventh to the eighth, are found from the fecond to the third, and from the fixth to the feventh. To remedy this inconvenience, muficians apply certain marks called tharps and flats. A sharp (see Plate 1. Lx. 7) indicates that the note before which it is placed is to befung or played a semitone higher than its natural found. A flat (see P.1. E 7) requires that the note before which it is placed be fung a femitone lower than its natural found. And if a sharp or flat be fixed at the beginning of a tune, it affacts all those notes which stand on the letter where it is placed. A natural (see Pl. I. Ex. 7) takes off the effect of a sharp or flat from the note to which it is prefixed, and reduce it to its natural state. To raise than the octave from Das above, musicians give a sharp to F, and another to C, and by these means cause the semitones to fall out in their proper order thus:

D E sharp FG AB sharp C D

The office ther of harps and flats is to give us other keys befides C or A And this they effect by changing a tone into a semitone, or a semitone into a sone, as occasion may require. But their use and application will more distinctly appear, if we suppose a

Scale of semitones.] The feries from any particular note to its octave, contains, as we have observed, five tones, and two semitones. Now if we divide each of the five tones into two semitones, we shall represent the octave upon a new scale, as containing twelve semitones. This may be denoted by introducing an afterism, to represent the artificial semitone, thus:

G * A * BC * D * EF * g * a &c.

And by a flight inspection of this scale, the whole mystery of sharps and slats will be easily unravelled. For every afterism may be considered either as the sharp of that letter which it follows, or the flat of that letter by which it is followed. Thus the afterism between G and A is either G sharp, or A flat. And as by the introduction of a sharp or flat, we can make the interval between two succeeding letters either a tone or a semitone, we are no longer confined to the keys in the natural scale, but may assume

KEYS IN THE SCALE OF SEMITONE.] Every letter, nay every femitone in the octave, may be taken for a key. So that we have twelve different keys, and as they may be applied either in the sharp or flat key or feries, * we have properly speaking, twenty-four keys. But as this number would greatly add to the difficulty of the musical art, and is by no means of real use, we seldom, and especially in psalmody, go beyond seven keys in the sharp series and the same number in the slat series. See the table on the opposite page.

In

^{*} The learned should be particularly cautioned with respect to the ambiguous use of the word key. We often understand by it the relation, which the intervals contained in the octave bar to the key-note, and on which depends the characteristic air of any tune. In this sense we have only two keys the sharp and the star, which I have here called the sharp or the star series. At other times we mean by the key merely the letter or the name of the key note. And in this latter sense we recken twelve keys in the sharp, and twelve in the star series.





In the SHARP SERIES the usual Keys are, - Natural scale. F sharp. F and C sharp. - F, C and G sharp. - F, C, G and D sharp. B flat. B flat - Band E flat. GAb B, E, and A flat.* E flat In the FLAT SERIES the usual Keys are, Natural scale. D EF ABb ABb B and E flat. B, E, and A flat. CDb B, E, A and D flat. *FG - F and C sharp.* Of the SINGING SYLLABLES.

IN practifing musical lessons, it hath been recommended to appropriate peculiar syllables to the seven intervals contained in the octave. The end proposed is that the same name invariably applied to the same interval may naturally suggest its true relation and proper sound. The Italians and French make use of seven syllables for this purpose in the sollowing manner: in the sharp series,

Uth re mi fa fol la fi a.

In the flat feries,

La fi ut re mi fa fol la.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8.

These syllables are in effect only technical terms, which answer to the key-note the second, the third, and the several degrees of the octave. It and a are respectively the key-notes of the sharp and flat series; ut re denotes a tone, mi sa a semitone, ut mi a major third, re sa a minor third, ut sol a fitch, &c. &c.

Instead of the seven tyllables, as above, the British musicians confine themfelves to sour, three of which are repeated, in order to compleat the octave.— In the sharp series,

Fa answers to the key-note of the sharp series, and la to the key-note of the stat series; and the places of the semitones are represented by la ja and mi fa.

Mi which occurs only once in the octave, is called the master-hote, because it determines the situation of the rest in the following order;

Above your mi, twice fa, sol, la; Below your mi, twice la, sol, fa.

^{*} From this specimen it will be seen that the key or series is not reckoned sharp or state, with reference to the sharps or state placed at the beginning of tunes; sharps may be prefixed to a tune in the state key, or series, and vice versa, states may be set before a tune in the sharp key.

§ For ut, is commonly substituted the syllable do, as more easy to be pronounced.

To find mi, observe whether the tune be in the sharp or the stat series. In the tharp feries mi is a femitone below the key-note; in the flat feries it is a tone above the key-note. Or the following direction may suffice :

If B be flat, mi is in E.

If B and E be flat, mi is in A.

If B, E, and A be flat, mi is in D.

If F be sharp, mi is in F.

If F, C, and G be tharp, mi is in G. If F, 6, 9, 2, 23 hephop with ence it appears, that there are a find the second of the seco ing these fyllables to the lines and spaces contained in the gamut, and consequently that Solmization is an exercise of considerable difficulty. And it hath been much queried, whether the utility of this practice corresponds with the labour required. For after we have attained to the ready use of the names in different notes.

keys, we may fail of giving them the right found. Some of the British syllables in particular are ambiguously applied. Thus, fa sol is at one time a second, at another a tourth; fa la a third, and also a fixth. And when accidental whole principle is deranged, and the syllables must be accommodated to the new key that is introduced. Upon these accounts it hath been thought advisable not to lay much stress upon the sing ng syllables, but rather to direct to the intervals than the If neither flat no sharp be placed at the beginning of a tune, mi is in B. sharps or flats take place, or the music changes from one key to another, the If this latter method be adopted, the learner will find it of advantage before he practife any tune, to ascertain whether it be in the sharp or flat scries, and to Hence it appears, that there are no less than seven different ways of apply- run through the notes successively from the key to the octave. And especially should le be cautious to give a true sound to the third from the key-note, which in the tharp scries is a major, in the flat series a minor third, for this will naturally suggest the air of the tune, and lead to a right idea of all the other

Of various MUSICAL CHARACTERS and GRACES, with an Explanation of some ITALIAN WORDS.

REPEAT.] TOTS before a double bar require a repetition of the preceding Arain. Dots after a double bar shew that the sollowing strain is to be repeated. If some of the concluding bars have the figures 1, 2, with arches over them, it denotes, that when the strain is sung the first time over we are to smit the part inclosed by the arch 2, and when the strain is repeated we are to emit the part inclosed by the arch 1, and to conclude with the arch 2." us where the first note of the following stave begins: Ex. 16. See Plate 1. Ex. 8. And S with dots before and after it, denotes that from the

Lace where it stands to the end of the strain or tune must be repeated, Ex. Two oblique strokes with dots are often used for the same purpose, but placed between the slaves they more frequently fignity a repetition of the preceding words, as in Plate I. Ex. 9.

A DIRECT.] A DIRECT is a mark placed at the end of a flave, to apprile

A SLUR. A SLUR (Ex. 11.) shews how many notes are to be sung to one syllable. fyllable. It iometimes also requires a gliding easy movement, in opposition to the mark called

STACCATO] Which implies that the notes thus marked must be sung with

peculiar emphasis and distinctness. Plate I. Ex. 12.

Appossiatura.] Appoggiatura is a note of smaller size than usual added to the regular notes which complete the bar. It is to be touched upon, that we may pass more gracefully from the preceding to the following note. And whatever time is employed in singing the appoggiatura, must be taken from the principal note to which it is annexed. Ex. 13

A TRILL.] A TRILL, generally marked by tr. over a note, is one of the most difficult as well as beautiful graces that occurs in finging. It is a quick and alternate repetition of the note thus marked, and the note next about it, fo long as the time allows. Ex. 14.

TURNED SHAKE] Sometimes the note below that marked tr. is inferted a little before the conclusion of the trill, which is then called a TURNED

SHAKE. Ex. 15.

A BRACE.] A Brace ferves to connect to many parts as are to be fung or performed at the same time. Ex. 16.

$C \cdot H \quad A \quad P \quad V.$

GENERAL DIRECTIONS in respect to SINGING.

1. IN the choice of Tunes, let a particular regard be paid to the subject of the pfalm or hymn. Different airs in music are suited to different senti. ments and passions. A good taste will indeed enable us to make a nicer discrimination than words can readily fuggest. But the following general rule is of principal importance, That tunes in the Sharp Key or Series are naturally expressive of cheerfulness and joy, and should therefore be adapted to psalms of Praise and Thanksgiving; and that tunes in the Flat Key are naturally expressive of humility, forrow, and the tender affections, and should be sung to psalms of Prayer and of Penirence, or to Subjects Mourpful and Pathetic. This rule is too commonly violated, and with the most unhappy effect : for hereby the sentiments and the tune, are at variance with each other, and aim at contrary passions. The confequence is, that either the music must be without impression, or oppose the end which it ought to subserve. Whereas, when the tune and the sentiments properly accord, they mutually affift, and animate each other; the music acquires uperior energy and expression, and adds vigour and delight to the facred exerites of devotion.

II. The principal direction that can be given to the finger is, that he attend both to just ture, and to exact time. This is a rule of greater extent and importance than may at first appear. Few there are, who suspect themselves to err in these essential points; and sew there are, who do not offend in one or both of them. Defects that are attributed to other causes do very frequently proceed from the neglect of tune. or of time. And there is nothing which more distinguishes the proficient in music, or is the source of greater beauty, than accuracy in both these respects. Here then should the learner direct his first and principal attention.

III. Graceful Singing is best learned by imitation and the instructions of a master. But it may not be amiss to mention some of the most notorious instances in which it is violated. These are, a vulgar, inarticulate, and muttering pronunciation; a heavy, drawling, lifeless manner, or sudden bursts and explosions of sound. On the other hand, the tone should be clear, smooth, distinct and spirited. Some there are, with so little idea of propriety as to exert the full stretch of the voice in singing, with no other intermission than is necessary to sup-

ply them with breath. This is not only inconsistent with grace and beauty, but antolerably shocking and disgusting. A voice thus strained is necessarily harsh and disagreeable, becomes incapable of that varied expression, which is the true character of music, and may bawl or scream, but can hardly be said to sing.

In founds of confiderable length we should observe the direction which is sometimes marked by the Italian words crescendo and diminuendo, viz. begin with softness, and increase in strength till we come to the middle of the note, and then

gradually diminish to the end.

With respect to the more difficult ornaments, as the appoggiatura, and the trill or shake, they had better be omitted than performed in an awkward & imperfect manner. The introduction of other grates than what occur in the mufic should not be totally discouraged, but it is attended with much hazard, and often counteracts the meaning of the author, In full harmony this liberty should never be allowed, for it cannot produce a good effect, and probably will have a bad one,

It is of importance to chuse that part in finging which best agrees with the tone and compass of the voice, and to consider the particular expression which it requires. To the Bass belongs a bold and majestic accent, to the Tennor a firm and manly stile; the Counter should be soft and infinuating, and the TREBLE peculiarly sweet and delicate. The higher notes of the bass, and indeed of all

the other parts, are to be fung fofter than the lower ones.

The FORTE and PIANO, or the alternately finging loud and fost, when judiciously applied; has a pleasing and wonderful effect. How far it may be practicable in congregations to observe this distinction, particular circumstances must determine. It has been sometimes recommended, that the treble voices (with a bals cacompaniment) take the principal air when the music is marked piano

and that the rest of the congregation be silent. It would perhaps be still better in a choir of singers, that all the parts be sung, but with sufficient softeness to mark the contrast strongly with the forte. N. B. In the following collection of tunes we have seldom made use of the words forte and piano, because they may be variously applied. But in general the single tunes call for the piano on the third line, and the DOUBLE TUNES on the two lines which precede the two last.

IV. In a regular body of fingers, care should be taken properly to adjust the strength of the different parts, and especially that the treble and the contra do not overpower the tenor and the bass. And when the parts are thus disposed, every one should keep true to his station. Order is necessary in musical as well as other societies. Nor can any thing be more injudicious or disrespectful than for a singer, who might render himself useful, sometimes to be quite silent, or to be continually rambling from part to part. This ill-timed levity must greatly injure the effect of the harmony, and by overpowering one of the parts, will

frequently render the rest unmeaning or discordant.

V. To prevent the confusion and mistake which often arise from hurry and precipitation in the beginning of a tune, let the leader alone take the pitch. & leisurely proceed a few notes before he be joined by the other singers. And let him particularly observe whether the tune be of the sharp or stat series, and require the major or the minor third from the key note. Want of attention to this frequently misleads the band, and occasions a total stop. It would be of advantage also previously to fix upon the tunes which are intended for public worship. Such preparation would give readiness and considence to the singers, and might prevent that conversation and bussle which are not only contrary to decorum, but the violation of an important duty.

































































































































































































